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#### Remarks

Claims 1-26 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 17, 19, and 23-26 were rejected. Claims 2-4, 7, 8, 10, 16, and 18 were merely objected to and claims 12-15 and 20-22 were allowed. By the foregoing amendment, no claims are canceled, claims 1, 9, 23, and 24 are amended, and no claims are added. No new matter is presented.

#### Interview Summary

In a June 16, 2006 telephone interview, the examiner identified to the undersigned that the asserted motivation to combine with Eleftheriou et al. was identified in the final clause of the paragraph spanning pages 5 and 6 of the Office action, namely modulating bleed air when stall or surge occurs.

In an August 8, 2006 in-person interview, the combination was discussed with a review of the figures of the Eleftheriou et al., Honda et al., and Chlus et al. references. No agreement was reached.

#### Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-4, 7, 8, 10, 12-16, 18, and 20-22.

#### Claim Objections

Claim 23 was objected to and has been corrected as proposed by the examiner at line 11.

#### Claims Rejections-35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 17, 19, and 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. (US6092987) in view of Eleftheriou et al. (US6755025).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Eleftheriou et al. was newly cited. It was cited for a bleed plenum with a plurality of bleed ports. As noted above, the Office has clarified the asserted motivation for the combination with Honda et al. as being to allow modulation of bleed air when stall or surge occurs.

The asserted motivation is insufficient. The modulation of bleed air can be inherently

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achieved by bleed valves generally including those of Honda et al. and the other previously-cited references. Therefore, this function does not suggest the need for any modification of Honda et al. or the other references, generally, let alone any modification from Eleftheriou et al., in particular.

Furthermore, Eleftheriou et al. involves a structurally different environment than Honda et al. Particularly, Eleftheriou et al. involves bleed along an upstream portion of a centrifugal high pressure compressor. Honda et al differs both in type and location, being at the downstream end of an axial low pressure compressor.

As previously noted, the asserted Honda et al. aft and fore joints were identified as marked with letters E and F in a prior Office action. These letters point to areas where the Honda et al. housing 42 is sealed to an adjacent shroud ring but not secured thereto (see the beginning of paragraph 0021/23 of the present application/publication). This lack of securing was believed to not satisfy the claimed structural role. Claims 1 and 9 identified "securing" which has already been addressed in various dependent claims (e.g., claim 16 which further specifies bolted joints). Honda et al. does not disclose or suggest such securing. It appears the examiner takes a broader view of securing/structural than that identified in the present application/publication. The foregoing amendment amends the claims to read "fixedly attaching" to more clearly correspond with the identified structural securing. This is not suggested by even the proposed combination.

The assertion of Honda et al element 32 as the claim 23 outboard plenum does not cure the lack of a citation for a bleed plenum.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 17, 19, and 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chlus (US6802691) in view of Eleftheriou et al. and Honda et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Eleftheriou et al. combination suffers the same deficiency noted above.

First, as with Honda et al., only a single port is asserted rather than a plurality of ports (Office Action page 8, center paragraph). There has been no showing that one of ordinary skill would regard Chlus et al as suffering a deficiency for which any solution would be found in Eleftheriou et al. Eleftheriou et al. elements 14 were asserted as the offtake ducts, but these have no structure beyond that inherent in a port.

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Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. in view of Eleftheriou et al. and further in view of Malmberg U.S. PGPub. 2005/0008486.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

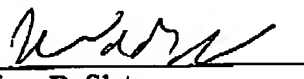
The insufficiency of the underlying Honda et al. combination with Eleftheriou et al. is noted above and extends to this rejection as well.

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chlus and Eleftherious et al. and Honda et al. and further in view of Malmberg. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The insufficiency of the underlying Chlus et al. combination with Honda et al. and Eleftheriou et al. is noted above and extends to this rejection as well.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1-26 are in condition for allowance. Please charge any fees or deficiency or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account of record.

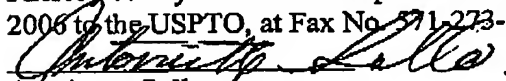
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 6, 2006

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2006 to the USPTO, at Fax No. 571-273-8300.

  
Antoinette Sullo